



# MOTHER AND UNBORN BABY CARE, INC.

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May 11, 2006

To the Honorable Members of the House Judiciary Committee,

I attended the hearing on House Bill 5879-5883 on May 10. I was not able to testify because time ran out, so I am sending my testimony in writing.

I am the Office Manager at Mother and Unborn Baby Care Problem Pregnancy Center in Lathrup Village, Michigan. At our center we see about 100 girls a month, and about 1,000 a year. Since 1984, we've been helping women with crisis pregnancies so they do not have to choose abortion. (Informational pamphlet attached.) We also offer shelter for women during their pregnancy through our pregnancy home Casa Vitae. We refer clients who state they are in danger from their partner to the National Domestic Violence Hotline (800) 799-7233.

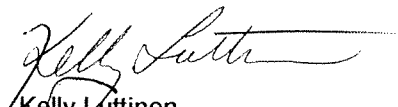
The focus of these testimonies is something we know a lot about. Many of the women we counsel report being coerced or forced into having an abortion against their will. We ask this question during our intake procedure. After a survey of our files over the last two years, we counted 59 clients who reported being coerced or forced into a decision to abort. And this is only the clients who told us the truth, and only those who made it to our center.

Examples of the stories we hear include the 32-year-old woman who had had 3 abortions. The first two had been such painful experiences, she did not want to abort the third child. But she was dependent on her parents financially, and they said they would withdraw their support unless she had the abortion. Another situation involved a grandmother bringing her granddaughter to our clinic. She thought our center was an abortion clinic, and she wanted us to help talk this child into the abortion the girl did not want. Another client's boyfriend brought her to our clinic, and though she didn't want it, her boyfriend wanted us to abort the twins she was carrying.

I have an interesting statistic from psychotherapist Dr. Theresa Burke, the founder of Rachel's Vineyard post-abortion retreats. She cites a survey of 252 women in post-abortion support groups, 53 percent of whom said they felt forced to have an abortion by other people in their lives. She cites this study in her book Forbidden Grief: The Unspoken Pain of Abortion – a very good, enlightening book about the after affects of abortion on women. I highly recommend it.

I have also enclosed an animation DVD of the abortion procedure and its risks. I would personally like to ask Rep. Virgil Smith to watch this. Then I would ask him if he really would make his 15-year-old daughter go through this procedure if she did not want to do it.

Sincerely,

  
Kelly Luttinen  
Office Manager and Counselor  
Mother and Unborn Baby Care